
PRESS RELEASE

HEPTech Leadership training

Representatives of the HEPTech nodes brought together in the beautiful Cosener's House in Abingdon, UK for the first best-practice sharing workshop within the HEPTech Leadership training initiative. The event was held on 3-4 May 2018 and was hosted by STFC.



Elizabeth Kirby, Head of Innovation at STFC, shared her experience in managing the functions of the TTO in an evolving environment. She focused on the innovation management and pointed out the common challenges in the process, such as identifying and understanding the potentially wider applications of a new technology, understanding potential markets, identifying suitable partners, etc. Examples of innovation-based spin-out companies illustrated the way of an innovation from the laboratory to market. In conclusion, it has been emphasized that the IP and commercialization policies should support the organizational strategy; good policies make it easier to cope with changes, as well as the importance of the continuous work to bring your team with you and to engage with rest of the organization.

STFC also presented their experience in reporting impact of innovation and their impact evaluation strategy.



Joanna Hart, Space Cluster Manager at STFC, presented the Harwell Campus and its incubator that supports three clusters – space, energy and health. She focused on the links to investors and on the benefits offered by the ESA Business Incubation Centres (BICs) established by STFC and the European Space Agency (ESA).

Great interest of the audience was triggered by the presentation of Oxentia that shared its experience in the global technology

commercialisation. Oxentia started as the consulting division of the technology transfer company of the University of Oxford; specialized in commercializing university technologies. Its clients are both small and growing universities, and well-established ones. The company has supported establishment of TTOs in UK and other countries in Europe and beyond, such as France and Italy, Mexico, Argentina, Peru. Based on its international experience, Michael Mbogoro from Oxentia presented various approaches to the organization of the technology transfer functions as well as to funding for spin-out companies.

A special session was dedicated to the future priorities of HEPTech.

The participants appreciated the opportunity to learn from the experience of the STFC and enjoyed the lively discussions.

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